

NEWS from the City of Greenville

P.O. Box 2207 206 South Main Street Greenville SC 29602

October 11, 2004

Contact: Candace Sommer, 467-4470 Cheryle Ratliff, 467-4431 For Immediate Release

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCMENT

PUBLIC INVITED TO ATTEND RICHLAND'S 120th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The public is invited to attend a celebration to commemorate the 120th anniversary of Richland Cemetery to be held on Sunday, October 31, 2004, 2:30 p.m. at Mt. Emmanuel Baptist Church, 316 Spartanburg Street in Greenville. The event is being hosted by the Friends of Richland Cemetery to raise awareness and support for this historical Greenville treasure.

The event will begin with an opening reception followed by a program that includes a presentation of the history of the cemetery, musical entertainment and a tribute to three outstanding educators who are buried in Richland Cemetery:

- Masselena Vivian Lawrence Bowen Teacher in Greenville County School for 50 years; 40 of these years at Allen City School, teaching seventh grade.
- Florence L. Lykes Sterling High School Teacher of Social Studies.
- Anna B. McAdams Richardson, Sterling and Greenville High School Teacher of English.

The event will conclude with a motorcade to the cemetery and a memorial ceremony for the honorees.

There is no cost to attend. However, donations would be greatly appreciated. Those wishing to attend should contact Cheryle Ratliff at 467-4431. Those who cannot attend but would like to make a contribution, can mail it to:

Friends of Richland Cemetery P.O. Box 9816 Greenville, SC 29604

About Richland Cemetery:

Deeded to the City of Greenville in 1884, Richland Cemetery is one of the first African American cemeteries in the City of Greenville, South Carolina. The cemetery is approximately six acres in size and includes over 1400 documented grave sites. The graves date back from the late 1800s up to the present.

Richland celebration, page 2

The name bears the name of the creek "Richland Creek", which is a branch of the Reedy River. It has served as the final resting place for some of the most influential African American citizens of Greenville.

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